

Postgraduate Opportunities

Students who complete the MSc African Studies to a sufficient standard may transfer to doctoral multidisciplinary programmes such as African Studies, Area Studies, Ethnic Studies or Cultural Studies, and disciplinary programmes such as Politics and International Relations, Development Studies, Modern History, Anthropology, Law, Sociology, Journalism, Literature, Media Studies, or Geography. More than 150 students are currently registered for doctoral degrees in African topics in Oxford.

Graduate Careers

Our alumni also go on to use their research and experience in African Studies in a variety of occupations including aid agencies, the media, (international) development organisations, public policy, government, and advisory work:

Akin Iwilade (MSc 2012-2013)

After completing the MSc in African Studies, I obtained a DPhil in International Development at Oxford. After this I taught briefly at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria before taking up the first Lectureship in African Studies at the University of Leeds.



Li Lianxing (MSc 2008-2009)

I am currently a PhD student in Political Science at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. After graduating from Oxford, I went to Cambridge for an MPhil in International Relations. Then I worked in the media for about eight years starting with China Daily, where I became an international news reporter covering conflict zones in Syria, Egypt, Somali-Kenya border, and Pakistan and developing countries.



Annabel Charnock (MSc 2008-2009)

After doing my undergraduate degree at Oxford I was interested in moving into international development. The African Studies MSc was the perfect option, and helped me to enter the UK civil service through the fast stream. I am now working for the Department for International Development, on a secondment to the Tanzanian President's Delivery Bureau.



Diana Kiluta (MSc 2007-8)

Upon completing the African Studies course I took up a role in emerging markets trading with a large European bank that was aiming to grow its business in Africa. The MSc gave me the foundation that has allowed me a more nuanced view of Africa through the lens of the private sector.



The late Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General, with ASC students at the official opening of the African Studies Centre Building, 13 February, 2011.

African Studies at Oxford

The University of Oxford is one of the world's leading centres for the study of Africa. With particular strengths in the Social Sciences and the Humanities, Oxford enjoys a reputation for high quality, relevant research that plays a leading role in academic debate as well as influencing public policy.

The African Studies Centre, within the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies (OSGA), acts as a focal point for graduate level work and faculty research on Africa, organising a weekly interdisciplinary seminar and running frequent workshops and conferences to disseminate research findings and publicise topical issues. Along with other centres in OSGA, we also offer a DPhil in Area Studies.

Students and researchers in African Studies at Oxford benefit from the rich resources of the University's libraries and museums. The Commonwealth and African Collections at the Bodleian Library provide an excellent resource with one of the richest collections of primary and secondary sources on Africa in the UK.

Over the past century, Oxford has nurtured some of Africa's most prominent people. These include John Kufour, former President of Ghana, Emeka Ojukwu, the Nigerian general who led the Biafran secession, Tom Mboya, the Kenyan nationalist and trade union leader, Bram Fisher, the lawyer who defended Nelson Mandela during his political trials, and Pixley ka Isaka Seme, who was a founder and early president of the ANC.

Studying at Oxford

Oxford's academic community is globally renowned for its research strength. The University has produced 49 Nobel Prize winners and has more world-leading academics than any other UK University. As well as excellent research, facilities and teaching, Oxford offers a unique student experience with over 9600 graduates from 142 different countries.

Oxford is a collegiate university. Every student registered for a degree has to be a member of a college as well as a member of the University. All applicants who are accepted on to a course by the University are guaranteed a place in a college. Your college is not merely a residential community but also an academic environment and as a graduate student your college will take a very close interest in your progress.

Want to know more?

For further details of African Studies at Oxford visit:

www.africanstudies.ox.ac.uk

For details about applying for postgraduate studies at Oxford University visit: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/postgraduate/

Enquiries about the MSc in African Studies should be addressed to:

African Studies Administrator

African Studies Centre

13 Bevington Road, Oxford OX2 6LH

Phone: 01865 613900

Email: msc.enquiries@africa.ox.ac.uk



African Studies Centre

MSc in African Studies



MSc in African Studies



About the Course

The MSc in African Studies was inaugurated in 2005 and is already recognised as Europe's most prestigious and successful interdisciplinary postgraduate programme focusing on Africa. It is a three-term, nine-month course designed both as a stand-alone interdisciplinary introduction to current debates about Africa, and as a preparation for doctoral research on Africa.

The exceptionally low student-staff ratio provides intensive small class teaching and close contact with lecturers. Students work one-to-one with assigned supervisors on their dissertations and coursework; they participate in seminars, film screenings and other events to enhance classroom learning.

What does the course cover?

The MSc has two core courses, which are taught by weekly lectures and seminars. 'Methodology, Ethics and Research Strategies' runs for one term and examines research methodologies and strategies, including the politics of researching and writing on Africa. 'Themes in African History and the Social Sciences' runs over two terms and covers key questions and debates in the study of issues such as the African state, conflict and violence, diaspora and development.

Students also select one optional course from up to eight that are offered each year. Examples of optional courses include:

- ▶ Anthropology of Africa
- ▶ Civil-Military Relations in Africa
- ▶ The Politics of Life in Africa
- ▶ Cold War in Africa
- ▶ Education in Africa
- ▶ African Literature

The final component of the MSc is a 15,000 word dissertation for which MSc students work closely with their dissertation supervisor throughout the programme. The dissertation includes discussion of the methodology, historiography, or theory relevant to the research topic, and is often based on original research conducted in Africa. Students usually travel for research in the Easter vacation. Small travel bursaries are offered to support students' fieldwork and archival studies.

Who should apply?

The MSc in African Studies provides an excellent foundation for those wishing to specialise in Africa, either in preparation for an academic career or for work in the private sector, government, NGOs, multi-lateral and bi-lateral aid and development agencies, international organisations, international relations, publishing and the media.

Who teaches the course?

Professor Wale Adebaniwa, *Rhodes Professor of Race Relations* Race and ethnic relations; social theory; African politics; nationalism and the media; anthropology of elites

Professor Miles Larmer, *Professor of African History* Cold war; southern African history; mining; Copperbelts; Zambia; Katanga

Professor Jonny Steinberg, *Professor in African Studies* Crime, policing and punishment in South Africa; migration; exile

Professor David Pratten, *Associate Professor in the Social Anthropology of Africa* Anthropology of West Africa; colonialism; youth; vigilantism; masquerades

Professor Miles Tendi, *Associate Professor in African Politics* Intellectuals; Society and the State; Civil-Military Relations; Security Sector Reform; Biographical Research; Southern African Politics

Dr Thomas Hendricks, *Departmental Lecturer/Evans Pritchard Fellow in African Anthropology* African anthropology; gender studies; queer theory and gender; labour; race; memory

Dr Tim Livsey, *Departmental Lecturer in African History* West Africa, Transnational history, Decolonisation, Development, Urban landscapes, Everyday life

Dr Oliver Owen, *Departmental Lecturer in Social Anthropology of Africa* Politics and governance, security, political anthropology, police, policing and crime, taxation

Dr Julia Viebach, *Departmental Lecturer in African Studies* Transitional Justice, memorialisation, critical theory, legal archives, Rwanda, research ethics and methods

Dr Zoe Cormack, *Leverhulme Early Career Fellow* Post-colonial museum, visual culture; memory and memorialisation, war and violence in South Sudan

Dr Liz Fouksman, *Leverhulme Early Career Fellow* Labour, work, unemployment; development; southern Africa

In addition, the Centre hosts senior and post-doctoral visiting scholars who participate actively in the programme. Also, over 20 faculty members across various departments of the university contribute to the MSc African Studies teaching programme offering optional papers and contributing to supervision.

Further details of current temporary lecturers and visiting postdoctoral lecturers and staff research interests can be found on the African Studies Centre's website at: www.africanstudies.ox.ac.uk/people

Admissions

Entry Requirements

Entry to all degree programmes in Oxford is highly competitive and the MSc African Studies is no exception. It is expected that you will have at least a strong 2:1 degree from a UK university or an equivalent qualification. We welcome applications from students who have had experience in developing countries and from non-UK students. Applicants whose first language is not English will need to submit a language test score.

How do I apply?

Detailed information about the MSc African Studies can be obtained by accessing the website at: www.africanstudies.ox.ac.uk/msc-african-studies

Applications should be made online through the University of Oxford at: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk

We strongly recommend that applicants meet the November or January deadlines for the MSc in African Studies. You must apply by the January deadline to be considered for a University scholarship.



Scholarships



The African Studies Centre offers a number of fully-funded scholarships for the MSc in African Studies. These change every year but current scholarships include:

- ▶ **Oxford-Patrick Duncan Graduate Scholarship.** Open to applicants ordinarily resident in the Southern African Development Community applying for the MSc African Studies.
- ▶ **FirstRand Laurie Dippenaar Scholarship** Open to South African graduate applicants for the MSc African Studies.
- ▶ **ORISHA.** The African Studies Centre's own scholarship, which fully funds one masters and one doctoral student at a time.
- ▶ **Mitsui African Studies Scholarship.** A fully funded scholarship for students normally resident in Africa to read the African Studies MSc at St Anne's College.
- ▶ **Eni Scholarships.** Open to applicants who are ordinarily resident in Angola, Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, and the Republic of the Congo (Congo-Brazzaville). Preference given to applicants whose first degree is from an African university.
- ▶ **Oxford and Cambridge Society of Kenya.** A fully funded scholarship competition open to all students normally resident in Kenya students who are accepted to read a one year MSc course (including the African Studies MSc) at St Antony's College.
- ▶ **Standard Bank Derek Cooper Africa Scholarship.** Open to applicants who are applying for any full-time, one-year taught master's course within certain Divisions, including Social Sciences and Humanities, and who are ordinarily resident in one of the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia or Zimbabwe. Preference will be given to nationals of Angola, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa and South Sudan.

Full and up to date details can be found at www.africanstudies.ox.ac.uk/scholarships

An extensive range of University-wide scholarships are also available and include:

- ▶ **Clarendon Fund.** Oxford's largest scholarship scheme and open to all incoming graduates.
- ▶ **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission.** Offers scholarships for graduate students from Commonwealth countries.
- ▶ **Rhodes Scholarships.** To support students who show outstanding intellect, character, leadership and commitment to service.
- ▶ **Oppenheimer Fund.** Open to applicants ordinarily resident in South Africa.
- ▶ **Chevening scholarships.** From the UK government for international students.
- ▶ **Weidenfeld Scholarships.** To cultivating future leaders.

To find out about all the available options use the Fees, Funding and Scholarship Search tool: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/fundingsearch